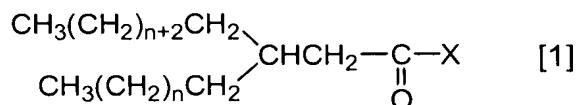


REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Abstract has been replaced. Claim 1 has been amended to make clear the fact that n is the same in every instance where it appears in formula [1]. This is supported throughout the specification and by Figure 1. See, e.g., the compounds listed in paragraphs 0021-0026 at specification pages 10-15 which have n the same in both chains of Formula [1]. For example, the first listed compound at page 10, line 10, 3-hexylundecanal, has n = 4 in each instance in Formula [1] to provide an 11-carbon aldehyde, substituted at the 3 position thereof with a 6-carbon chain:



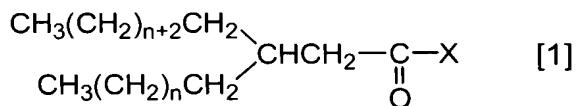
Claim 11 has been placed in independent form. Applicants greatly appreciate the indication that this claim is allowable. New Claims 13-16 are supported by Original Claim 1. No new matter has been entered.

The rejections over Wood, Ochiai, Hasegawa, and O'Lenick are traversed as none of the references discloses a compound of formula [1] where n, which is the same in each instance in formula [1], is 4 to 30.

For example, and with regard to Wood, ethyl 3-heptylundecanoate disclosed in the Table at page 3 does not meet present formula [1] because, viewing the 3-heptyl substituent as the “n” (rather than the “n+2”) alkyl radical, requires an “n” value of 5, while the undecanoate portion (11 carbons) requires an “n” value of 4.

Similarly with Ochiai: 3-undecyltetradecanoic acid does not meet the present formula [1] because, viewing the 3-undecylsubstituent as the “n” (rather than the “n+2”) alkyl radical, it requires an “n” value of 9, while the tetradecanoic portion (14 carbons) requires an “n” value of 7.

Hasegawa, and O'Lenick are essentially identical in their failure to disclose a compound of formula [1],



wherein X is hydrogen, a hydroxy group, an alkoxy group or a group derived from a polyol, and n, which is the same in each instance, is 4 to 30. See, e.g., Table 2 of Hasegawa at column 7 and column 14, lines 20-30 thereof. For O'Lenick it is believed that U.S. 5,639,791 has been applied which, at col. 2 line 36 – col. 3, line 14, disclose compounds that are different and distinct from those claimed in present formula[1].

In view of this situation and the indication of allowable subject matter herein, for which the Examiner is again thanked, Applicants submit that the present case is in condition for allowance, and early notification to this effect is earnestly solicited. For the Examiner's convenience, and in order to avoid a Printer Rush, Applicants note that two Information Disclosure Statements were filed after the issuance of the present Official Action. Applicants request initialed copies of their 1449's with the Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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